



# NEBRASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[www.education.ne.gov](http://www.education.ne.gov)  
301 Centennial Mall South  
P.O. Box 94987  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987  
TEL 402.471.2295  
FAX 402.471.0117

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Suzanne Whisler  
Jen Madison  
Educational Service Unit #4 (00-0004)  
919 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Auburn, NE 68305

A monitoring review of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act / No Child Left Behind (ESEA/NCLB) grant programs at ESU 4 was conducted on March 14, 2017. The programs reviewed were Title II, Part A and Title III.

Taking part in the review were the following people:

- Jen Madison, PD & Title III Director
- Suzanne Whisler, PD and Title II-A Director
- Brooke David, NDE
- Sue Knickman, PD Assistant
- Terri Schuster, NDE

### **NCLB Requirements:**

ESU 4 uses the state of the school reports as well as other longitudinal data to examine the needs of the schools in their area. In addition, they conduct spring visits to go over school's improvement goals. Using this information, ESU 4 determines the professional development needs of the schools in the area. They also conduct a program review and use teacher evaluations to ensure the professional development needs of the schools in the area are being met.

### **Title II, Part A:**

ESU 4 uses data from data reviews and spring visits to determine the professional development needs of its participants. In addition, they hold an annual advisory meeting in June and conduct a perceptual survey to determine if the professional development offerings are meeting the needs of participating districts. They use NeSA data to inform their professional development plan. This year, the data was indicating that math was an issue in many schools so they

have begun to develop professional development in this area. Spring visits also help them target the schools who are in most need of their support.

### **Title III:**

Title III funds are used to support participating schools with professional development, materials, and parent involvement activities. There is a clear process for schools to request using Title III funding for their supplemental activities and all requests are determined on a case-by-case basis. Schools in the consortium are generally providing push in/pull out programming. Participating schools have the opportunity to join the ESU 4 ELL network which meets 3-4 times per year to support them in programming.

### **Recommendation:**

With so many schools needing to develop a parental notification letter, it is recommended that ESU 4 take time at one of the network meetings to have a conversation with schools around joining efforts to develop one parent notification letter that meets the needs of all districts, includes all required elements, and is translated.

### **Commendations:**

ESU 4 is very purposeful in the way they support their participating schools. It is very clear that effort is made to determine the best and most useful professional development for their districts. Schools receive satisfactory and focused support from the ESU to meet their needs.

The ESU 4 ELL Network is an excellent opportunity for schools with low incidence of ELLs to network and collaborate. These meetings are great way to communicate with all Title III districts and to provide guidance and professional development to ELL teachers/program staff.

The completed ESEA/NCLB Monitoring Guide Checklist and support materials have been provided to NDE staff. All necessary documentation has been received and meets the ESEA/NCLB requirements. A copy of the completed checklist, along with sample supporting documentation, will be placed in the ESU 4 program review file at the Nebraska Department of Education in Lincoln.

The ESEA/NCLB monitoring process was designed to ensure that school districts and ESUs are complying with ESEA/NCLB guidance. This was evident through-out the visit. There are no corrective actions required as a result of the ESEA/NCLB monitoring review. If you have questions/concerns regarding the visit, please contact me by email at [brooke.david@nebraska.gov](mailto:brooke.david@nebraska.gov) or by phone at 402.471.2451.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brooke David". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Brooke David  
Title III/ELL Assessment  
Nebraska Department of Education